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Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Letter dated 30 September 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Latvia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit a letter by Māris Kučinskis, Prime Minister of the Republic of Latvia, informing about the decision to support the candidate nominated by the Government of Bulgaria, Kristalina Georgieva, for the position of Secretary-General of the United Nations (see annex).

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 121.

(*Signed*) Jānis **Mažeiks**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 30 September 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Latvia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Referring to the decision by the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria to nominate Ms. Kristalina Georgieva for the position of the next Secretary-General of the United Nations, I have the honour to convey Latvia's full support for this candidate.

Latvia shares the aspirations of the United Nations family, as stated in General Assembly resolution 69/321, to look for the best possible candidate, who embodies the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity and demonstrates a firm commitment to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

I am convinced that Ms. Georgieva combines all those qualities that make her the best candidate for the post of Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Ms. Georgieva has solid international experience and knowledge, which will contribute significantly to her performance as the Secretary-General. Her impressive record of work in the fields of social development, international cooperation, humanitarian aid and crisis response makes us confident that she is well suited to properly address the challenges faced by the global community.

Her current job as Vice-President for Budget and Human Resources in the European Commission as well as her job as Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (2010-2014) clearly demonstrate her leadership and consensus-building skills. She embodies the strategic thinking necessary to navigate today's challenges successfully at the United Nations, as clearly demonstrated during her tenure in the World Bank Group.

While merit must be the primary consideration, Latvia firmly believes in the value of equitable geographical representation for top-level positions at the United Nations. We also note the importance of giving due consideration to gender equality when choosing the next Secretary-General. Ms. Georgieva meets those expectations.

For all these reasons, we are confident that the candidature of Ms. Georgieva would meet the approval of the States Members of the United Nations.

(*Signed*) Māris **Kučinskis**